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Preparedness and Planning

Common Features in Emergent Diseases

Studies of ancient and modern plagues indicate that there are common features, which may be useful in predicting the course of a threatened pandemic. For example, international trade and troop movement during wartime played a role in both the emergence of the Plague of Athens as well as in the spread of influenza during the pandemic of 1918-19. Other factors underlying many instances of emergent diseases are poverty, lack of political will, and changes in climate, ecosystems and land use.

WHO Guidelines for Tuberculosis and Air Travel

The World Health Organization (WHO) published "Tuberculosis and Air Travel: Guidelines for Prevention and Control." This edition builds upon the 2006 edition and adds to it in providing: (1) greater clarity in the definition of infectious index cases; (2) procedures for the follow-up of contacts of infectious cases; and (3) a more detailed definition of the roles and responsibilities of the agencies involved. The recommendations recognize that the response needs to be proportional to the risk, so that public confidence is reserved and unnecessary restrictions are avoided.

TB Border Travel Incidents

In spring 2007, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and state and local health officials worked together to prohibit two individuals with drug-resistant infectious tuberculosis (TB) from crossing U.S. borders and direct them to treatment. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to examine (1) the factors that affected HHS's and DHS's responses to the incidents, (2) the extent to which HHS and DHS made changes to response procedures as a result of the incidents, and (3) HHS's and DHS's efforts to assess the effectiveness of changes made as a result of the incidents. GAO recommended that DHS explore the feasibility of enhancing its capability to create public health alerts based on other variations of biographic information, and that HHS and DHS work together to continue to inform state and local health officials about new tools and procedures and develop plans for completing actions to ensure coordination among agencies.

Drug-Resistance Influenza Modeling

In a mathematical modeling study published in *Virology*, researchers reported that drug resistant influenza was capable of increasing hospitalization rates by up to 233% in a hypothetical Swiss town of 100,000 inhabitants. Coupled with increased reports of drug resistant virus, these findings have implications for hospital planning, infection control activities, and chemoprophylaxis strategies.

News

Website for Those Needing Affordable Healthcare

On December 10, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) announced a new webpage offering information to Michigan residents on how and where to find low-cost or free health care. The site links to pages with information on a variety of programs including community health centers, free clinics, community mental health service programs, community dental care programs, assistance with prescriptions, breast and cervical cancer screening and treatment programs, local public health departments, family planning, information on Medicaid enrollment, and a number of other resources. In many cases, the site links to directories or lists by Michigan County to help people locate nearby help with health care. Local health departments are encouraged to put this link on their own homepages to assist citizens in their jurisdiction.

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Read the Next *Guardian* Issue!
January 9, 2009

Waterborne Diseases and the Health Effects of Water Pollution

The majority of practicing physicians in the United States have received no formalized training in the recognition and evaluation of waterborne disease or in the management of the short- and long-term health effects of water pollution or contamination during their medical education or subsequently during their years in active clinical practice. The purpose of this "[Physician Online Reference Guide](#)" is to attempt to address this critical information gap and to provide busy practicing clinicians with informational resources and educational tools to assist them in the recognition of waterborne disease and the health effects of water pollution.

Electronic Mass Casualty Assessment and Planning Scenarios

Few tools exist that are sufficiently robust to allow manipulation of key input variables to produce casualty estimates resulting from high-consequence events reflecting local or specific regions of concern. Electronic Mass Casualty Assessment and Planning Scenarios (EMCAPS) is a computerized modeling simulation tool developed to have broad application across emergency management and public health fields as part of a catastrophic events preparedness planning process. EMCAPS is designed for the National Planning Scenarios with health effects, and is being advanced by the US Department of Homeland Security, the tool's platform is supported by the detailed descriptions and readily retrievable evidence-based assumptions of each scenario. [EMCAPS](#) may be downloaded for free.

FDA Reports Significant Progress in Protecting the Food Supply

On December 1, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released a report on its implementation of the [Food Protection Plan](#), launched a year ago to protect both domestic and imported food from accidental and intentional contamination. Specific areas of progress include: formation of an internal Risk-Based Steering Committee, increase foreign capacity building, advances in risk-based inspections and sampling, and others. The full one-year [summary report](#) is available online.

Chemical Weapons

[This paper](#) describes the current U.S. system of dual-use export controls, indicates how it has changed since the 1980s, and identifies continuing gaps and weaknesses. The paper concludes with some recommendations to prevent the future trafficking of chemical weapons precursors.

Mercury Prohibition and Safety

On January 1, state law will prohibit the use of blood-pressure recording, measuring, or monitoring devices containing mercury, outside of private home settings. The devices most familiar in healthcare settings are devices to gauge a patient's blood pressure, where the healthcare professional watches the bead of mercury rise to an appropriate level before releasing the pressure in the cuff. The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) has received reports of several mercury releases from these devices this past year.

Mercury is a liquid metal at room temperature. When released from a container, it slowly vaporizes. The vapors cannot be seen under normal lighting nor can they be smelled. Exposure to the vapors can cause central nervous system effects (learning and behavioral disorders, mood changes, seizures) and kidney damage. Short-term exposure to very high levels of mercury vapor, which can occur when mercury is heated, can cause death. Exposure to lower levels can also cause a condition in infants and young children called acrodynia, or Pinks disease.

For more information on Michigan legislation regarding mercury-bearing medical devices, information about the adverse health effects of mercury exposure, and how to properly dispose of these devices, access the Michigan Department of Community Health [mercury website](#) or call 1-800-648-6942.

Long-lived Immunity after Smallpox Vaccination

It has long been held that smallpox vaccination confers 5 to 10 years of protection for recipients, who may then require a booster to maintain immunity. However, researchers from the National Institute of Aging (NIA) have reported results of [a study](#) in which 97% of 209 vaccinated subjects maintained antibody titers for up to 88 years.

Children in Humanitarian Emergencies

[These guidelines](#) are to assist in the care of children in emergencies. They are designed to serve as a reference manual for the evaluation and management of children in emergencies, and as the basis for the training of healthcare workers. The target audience is first level health workers who provide care to children under the age of 5 years.

EPA Research Highlights

The EPA is developing health-based provisional advisory levels (PALs) for high priority hazardous chemicals and chemical warfare agents in air and drinking water. PALs are a tiered set of exposure values used to inform risk-based decision making during a response to environmental contamination involving hazardous chemicals. To view a list of chemical for which PALS have been determined, see the [EPA website](#).

Midseason Flu Survey

In mid-November, RAND conducted a survey of a nationally representative sample of adults age 18 and over (n=3,969) to collect data on the receipt of the influenza vaccine in the United States. [Survey results](#) suggest that by mid-November 2008: 30 percent of all U.S. adults had been vaccinated against influenza, 37 percent of U.S. adults with a health or occupational indication had been vaccinated, and 17 percent of adults intended to receive the vaccine by the end of the vaccination season.

Gulf War Illness and the Health of Gulf War Veterans

An extensive [federal report](#) recently released concludes that roughly one in four of the 697,000 U.S. veterans of the 1990-91 Gulf War suffer from Gulf War illness. That illness is a condition now identified as the likely consequence of exposure to toxic chemicals, including pesticides and a drug administered to protect troops against nerve gas.

NIOSH Database for Emergency Responders

The Emergency Response Safety and Health Database ([ERSH-DB](#)) is a rapidly accessible occupational safety and health database developed by NIOSH for the emergency response community. The ERSH-DB contains accurate and concise information on high-priority chemical, biological and radiological agents that could be encountered by personnel responding to a terrorist event.

Security Standards for Freight and Passenger Rails

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced regulations aimed at strengthening the security of the nation's freight and passenger rail systems and reducing the risk associated with the transportation of security-sensitive materials. The Rail Security [final rule](#) will require freight and passenger rail carriers to designate rail security coordinators and report significant security concerns to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

Securing the Bomb 2008

The U.S. president who takes office in January 2009 will face a world in which the danger that terrorists could get and use a nuclear bomb remains very real. The purpose of [this report](#) is to outline the danger of nuclear terrorism, assess what has and has not been done to reduce it, and suggest an agenda of actions

that could reduce the risk dramatically. While the probability that terrorists could get and use a nuclear bomb can never be reduced to zero, the goal must be to get as close to zero as possible, as quickly as possible.

Chemical Security 101

More than 80 million Americans live within range of a worst-case toxic gas cloud from at least one of the nation's 101 most dangerous chemical facilities, which security experts say are potential terrorist targets. [This threat](#) can be reduced by converting facilities to safer and more secure chemicals or processes, according to a new report from the Center for American Progress.

Privacy vs. Surveillance

A federal program that scans civilian databases to spot potential terrorists is ineffective and threatens the privacy of millions of law-abiding Americans. The difficulty of detecting the activity of terrorist groups through their communications, transactions, and behaviors is hugely complicated by the ubiquity and enormity of electronic databases maintained by both government agencies and private-sector corporations. The report "[Protecting Individual Privacy in the Struggle Against Terrorists: A Framework for Program Assessment](#)" offers recommendations to governments on how to balance citizens' privacy with the need to monitor potential terrorist suspects.

Surveillance

The Avian Influenza Daily Digest

[This digest](#) contains raw open source content and is not an evaluated intelligence product. Readers are encouraged to contribute updates and/or clarifications that will be posted in subsequent issues of the digest. Also available on the website is the HPAI H5N1 60-Day Outbreak Map that includes confirmed and suspected human/animal cases of HPAI H5N1 in the past 60 days. Articles and resource documents in this digest are from open sources and unclassified.

U.S. Largest Donor to Bird Flu Control Activities

The United States will provide an additional [\\$44.4 million](#) in support of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) avian influenza control and prevention campaign. With the new funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), US support to the FAO avian influenza program has reached a total of \$112.8 million. The United States remains the largest donor to FAO's avian flu control activities implemented in more than 96 countries.

Communications

AHRQ Audio Archive

The Agency for Health Research and Quality (AHRQ) has archived audio from past conferences and meetings, including topics such as providing mass medical care with scarce resources, hospital surge capacity, and bioterrorism and health system preparedness. Please visit the [AHRQ website](#) to hear these recordings.

Georgia's Comprehensive Disaster Mental Health Website

[This website](#), sponsored by the Georgia Department of Human Resources,

focuses on the mental health aspects of an emergency or disaster. This site contains fact sheets, resources and publications, and information by audience. These resources are available in fourteen different languages.

REMM Website Updates

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has recently updated their Radiation Event Medical Management (REMM) website. This website aims to provide guidance for health care providers, primarily physicians, about clinical diagnosis and treatment during mass casualty radiological/nuclear (rad/nuc) events. New content to the site includes: [downloadable mobile REMM](#).

CDC Emergency Preparedness and Response Website Redesigned

The CDC Emergency Communication System has redesigned the entire Emergency Preparedness and Response [website](#) to better serve you. These changes included such features as better organization of the site's content, simple navigation from one page to another, clear, easy-to-find instructions on how to report an emergency, anonymous feedback option on every page, easier the ever to sign up for email updates, content source cited on every page, easier to bookmark and share our webpages.

Epidemiology, the Internet, and Global Health

This global [repository](#) of lectures on public health and prevention, called Supercourse, targets educators across the world. Supercourse has a network of over 55,000 scientists in 174 countries who are sharing a free library of 3,455 lectures in 26 languages.

Effectiveness of State Emergency Management Websites

[This research](#) focused on the role of the internet in crisis communications. It examined both the practice and the attitudes of fifty-one state emergency management agencies (EMAs) toward the internet. The data analysis of this research suggests that state emergency planners need greater recognition of the value of the Internet and other social media. The following recommendations to state emergency management agencies were made:

- do a better job defining the purposes and targeted stakeholders when designing and administering websites.
- recognize that the internet and emerging social media are as important in public outreach – even in emergencies – as more traditional media.
- website content should be under the direction of public information officers who have direct access to an agency's top manager.
- make agency websites more accessible to the public and the news media.
- agency public information officers should be knowledgeable in the use of internet technology.
- simplify the agency URLs to facilitate public outreach.

Arab-American Health Conference Webcast Available

The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) has made the 5th National Conference on Health Issues in the Arab-American Community available via webcast. [Day 1](#) and [Day 2](#) of the conference are available online. The conference proceedings will also be published in the journal *Ethnicity and Disease* by mid-2009.

Pandemic Planning

NPHIC Pandemic Influenza Resource Library

The National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) is proud to an-

nounce the launch of the [Pandemic Influenza Resource Library](#). This web-based clearinghouse offers a wealth of pandemic flu communication materials and resources -- fact sheets, checklists, posters, PSAs -- that are free to download and use to strengthen your community's preparedness for a potential influenza pandemic.

Study Shows Infection Control Challenges Hospital Workers

Hospital workers who followed official infection control guidelines for pandemic influenza for 1 day used 10 times as many gloves as usual, generated three times as much clinical waste, and found that many tasks took longer than normal, according to a new report. The 24-hour [exercise](#) in a British hospital also revealed various other challenges, including that hospital workers lacked confidence in their ability to follow infection control guidelines, felt uncomfortable wearing surgical masks, and felt that wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) hindered communication.

Ethical Issues in Pandemic Influenza Planning

In March 2006, the World Health Organization (WHO) convened four working groups to review the literature and develop preliminary conclusions on key ethical issues in pandemic preparedness and response. [This document](#) discussed three main areas: equitable access to therapeutic and prophylactic measures; isolation, quarantine, border control, and social distancing; and the role and obligations of healthcare workers during an influenza pandemic.

Antiviral Drug Stockpiling by Employers

The federal government [strongly encourages](#) all public and private sector employers, regardless of size, to plan for a pandemic, to protect the health of employees and assure continuity of operations. If an employer is considering stockpiling antiviral drugs, it should do so with a clear understanding of the legal, regulatory, ethical, logistical, and economic issues that will be encountered in ordering, storing, securing and dispensing prescription medications. Newly developed federal guidance recommends expanding antiviral drug use to include prophylaxis (i.e. antiviral use to prevent infection in persons either before or after they are exposed to pandemic influenza) in healthcare and emergency services occupations, for people whose immunity is compromised by an underlying medical condition or treatment, and for people living in group settings (e.g., nursing homes) if an outbreak of pandemic disease occurs at the facility.

Guidance on Antiviral Drug Use during an Influenza Pandemic

The use of prescription antiviral drugs to treat and prevent infection will be an important component of a pandemic influenza response. While current antiviral drug use strategies and publicly maintained stockpiles are targeted primarily for treatment of persons with pandemic illness, expanded antiviral drug production has allowed additional strategies to be considered. An interagency working group, with input from representatives of state, local and tribal public health agencies, considered scientific issues, ethics and values, and perspectives of stakeholders in developing draft guidance on antiviral use strategies and stockpiling. The antiviral drug use guidance in this document replaces the recommendations developed in 2005 which are published as part of the Department of Health and Human Service's (HHS's) pandemic influenza plan. As guidance, [this document](#) does not create a requirement; rather, it defines a prudent strategy for antiviral drug stockpiling and use that can contribute to a more effective pandemic response.

Regional News

Oakland County Improves Communication with Residents

Oakland County has made its mission to improve communication with its residents. In doing so, the eGovernment team recently launched GovDelivery's [Email and Digital Subscription Management](#) solution on the County's public website. This new service allows website visitors to sign up for automatic notifications via email or wireless text message when new information is posted on the County's website. More than 20,000 subscribers have been added since June 2008. Unique subscription items include an E-Focus newsletter, Health Division news & events, critical water notifications and beach closings, pet adoption news, emergency response and preparedness news releases, and County job opportunities.

News from Region 5

On November 25, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notified Dr. William Fales, the Region 5 Bioterrorism Preparedness Medical Director, that Region 5 has been selected as a "model community" for CDC's Terrorism Injuries: Information, Dissemination and Exchange (TIIDE) project. Model communities exemplify how the emergency care community and public health partnerships can work together, and these relationships are tested through drills and exercises. Region 5 is one of seven United States communities receiving recognition from the TIIDE. Dr. Fales will be traveling to Florida in January, with other TIIDE awardees, to present on Michigan's emergency preparedness and collaboration.

Thirty-eight representatives attended the "Pandemic Influenza Planning and Preparedness" course at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Alabama in October. The group consisted of public health, healthcare, emergency management, and other regional emergency preparedness partners. As Region 5 comprised all the course participants on this offering, the group was able to use the course content to collaborate on regional pandemic influenza response planning. The group is continuing to leverage this experience to advance their Region 5 pandemic planning initiatives.

Other News

New Homeland Security Secretary

Arizona Governor [Janet Napolitano](#), President-elect Barack Obama's top choice to run the Department of Homeland Security, is tough on illegal immigration, child abuse and Republicans. A former federal prosecutor, state attorney general and twice-elected governor of Arizona, Napolitano would bring a wide skill set to what many have called the hardest job in government. If confirmed by the Senate, she would take over the newest and third-largest department in Obama's Cabinet.

Rolling Classroom for Medical Workers

The Emergency Medicine Learning and Resource Center has installed specialized gear in a former tour bus, converting it to a \$3.5 million [rolling classroom](#). The bus houses what may be the only dual emergency simulator in the nation. In the front of the vehicle is a patient simulator used to teach emergency room workers like doctors and nurses. In the back is a patient simulator for first responders like EMTs and paramedics and firefighters. A contract with the Florida Department of Health calls for the bus to visit the entire state over several months.

Training and Education

Public Health Planning for Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism

This web-based [training course](#) will provide public health officials with the most current information regarding public health planning for response to radiation emergencies, including information on local government roles and responsibilities, radiologic monitoring of people (population monitoring), pharmaceutical countermeasures deployed by the strategic national stockpile, and the role of communications in a radiation emergency.

Emergency Planning for the Elderly

The Maine Office of Elder Services and the Harvard School of Public Health, Center for Public Health Preparedness are pleased to present an online course intended to improve emergency preparedness planning for and among the elderly population titled: "Maine's Elders and Emergencies: Working for the Future". [This course](#) is designed for city and state officials, representatives of communitybased organizations and other service providers, adult caregivers, first responders, elder adults, and any individual who wants to participate in promoting emergency preparedness for elder community needs. This course will provide the tools and knowledge necessary to prepare and respond to elders in an emergency. At the logon screen, use "elder" as the userid and password.

Minnesota Psychological First Aid Training

The Minnesota Department of Health adapted the National Center for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder's Psychological First Aid (PFA) course into a brief training for emergency responders. Minnesota shortened the original training to a [2- to 4-hour course](#) that could meet core competency requirements for disaster behavioral health responders and address the needs of specific local audiences. Two presentations were tailored to K-12 schools and local health departments. A pocket card reminds behavioral health responders of the main components of PFA, while a self-care pocket card developed by Idaho State University Institute of Rural Health encourages self care among providers. The training sessions were designed to be delivered by licensed behavioral health practitioners with disaster experience.

Reaching Others and Ensuring Surge Capacity

This is an online [introductory training](#) for health educators and others who might be called upon to perform health education tasks during a public health emergency. The online tutorial features a interactive medium for participants to learn more about public health emergencies and the role they might play.

New Online Trainings from Yale New Haven Health's Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response

- *Best Practices for the Protection of Hospital-Based First Receivers.* Information topics include special threats from specific agents; levels of biological, chemical and radiological protection and isolation; various levels of respiratory protection; principles of decontamination; decontamination procedures; mental health concerns regarding decontamination; and personal safety issues regarding decontamination.
- *Emergency Preparedness for Healthcare with NIMS.* Hospitals and many healthcare organizations are now required to implement the National Incident Management System (NIMS) education and training for appropriate personnel. Yale New Haven Health has developed "Emergency Preparedness for Healthcare Professionals with IS 700 (EM 108)" as an equivalent IS 700 NIMS course. This course is time-efficient and relevant to public health, hospital and healthcare workers. The course provides

information and action steps all employees can take to ensure a work environment prepared for disasters.

- *N95 Respirator and PPE Training for Healthcare Workers.* Information topics include reasons for respirator and personal protective equipment (PPE) use; proper methods for inspecting, donning and doffing a respirator and PPE; the effective use of a respirator and PPE; and common errors made in respirator and PPE use.
- *Incident Command Systems for Healthcare with NIMS.* This course is designed to help healthcare leaders understand their role in managing continuous care for patients in the event of an emergency or disaster and to meet the federal requirements for IS 100.HC, An Introduction to Incident Command System and IS 200.HC, Applying Incident Command System to Healthcare Organizations. EM 142 is designed for all those who may serve in a leadership role in a healthcare organization during an emergency or disaster.
- *Advanced Radiological Emergency Preparedness for Clinicians.* This course is designed for clinicians with an interest in understanding radiation concepts, the medical effects of radiation on biological systems, radiation countermeasures and essential elements for dealing with radiological and nuclear emergencies in the health care environment.
- *Protection of Hospital-Based First Receivers, Operations Level.* Information topics include preparation for health care workers, such as emergency department clerks and clinicians who are assigned to work in the contaminant-free areas but who may need to identify possible risks associated with unannounced patients; preparation for health care workers with designated roles for contaminant removal or who will be working in areas that are considered to be contaminated (training includes proper use of protective equipment); and preparation for hazardous materials specialists, including radiation safety officers.
- *Pediatric Triage, Treatment and Recovery for Emergencies.* This course introduces clinicians acting as first receivers to the unique challenges encountered with children in a disaster. Children represent a special subset of individuals at risk as they have unique physiological and pharmacological considerations. The federal Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) encourages the Department of Health and Human Services to promote appropriate pre-disaster activities at the state and local levels to address the medical health needs of children.
- *Geriatric Preparedness, Triage and Treatment in Disasters.* This course introduces clinicians acting as first receivers to the unique challenges encountered with the elderly in a disaster. Senior citizens represent a special subset of individuals at-risk as they have unique physiological and pharmacological considerations. The federal Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) encourages the Department of Health and Human Services to promote appropriate pre-disaster activities at the state and local levels to address the medical health needs of the elderly.
- *Emergency Preparedness for Healthcare at Work and at Home.* This course is designed to help healthcare workers understand their role in providing continuous care for patients in the event of an emergency. At the completion of the course, learners will: recognize the types of emergencies and disasters that can impact health care facilities, understand the phases of emergency management, review the purpose of the Incident Command System, prepare for their role and responsibilities, and review steps for preparing their own family. This awareness-level course will provide the information and action steps all employees can take to ensure a work en-

vironment prepared for disasters and is recommended for all hospital and healthcare employees.

| Date/Time | Event | Location |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Jan. 13, 2009 | Critical Incident Stress Management These two-day courses are designed for health-care providers and other planning partners who live, work in or are part of Region 2 South (City of Detroit, Monroe, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties). Priority will be given to these individuals in the registration process. Please see the informational flyer for more information. Classes filled up quickly, so registration should be made as soon as possible. | 1239 Kipke Drive - Ann Arbor, MI |
| Jan. 22, 2009 | National Association for EMS Physicians Annual Meeting Please visit the NAEMSP website for full details on the annual meeting including registration brochure, online meeting registration, exhibitor prospectus, preconference workshop information, accepted abstracts listing, and other information. | Jacksonville, FL |
| Jan. 29, 2009 1:00pm | Mass Antibiotic Dispensing Broadcast Many public health planners are unsure how to reach out to and involve AI/AN communities in their mass antibiotic dispensing plans and drills. This broadcast will assist state and local Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) planners in determining how to effectively engage their neighboring tribal governments and communities. | Webcast |
| Jan. 31, 2009 | 38th Critical Care Congress This year's Congress offers oral presentations on the following topics: basic sepsis science, basic science, cardiology/CPR, epidemiology, neurology, sepsis, therapeutics, and others. Please visit the Society for Critical Care Medicine website for more information. | Nashville, TN |
| Feb. 1, 2009 | Advanced PIO for Health and Hospital Emergencies Course The four-day APIO course combines lectures, facilitated discussion, activities, and exercises, allowing participants to apply knowledge and skill to manage a JIC in an emergency situation. This is accomplished with lectures in risk and crisis information, legal issues, policies, interpersonal skills, and emergency information systems. Activities such as the writing exercise and the news conference exercise allow the PIO to practice skill sets required to conduct the practical exercise on the final day. Course code CDP 009-06. See the Center for Domestic Preparedness website for training application and registration information. | Noble Training Center Anniston, AL |
| Feb. 3, 2009 | Emergency Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs This workshop will examine existing and/or needed standards for emergency preparedness for persons with disabilities and special needs. This event will work to identify what standards currently exist and in what areas new standards need to be developed, followed by actionable recommendations for the timely development of standards in the identified needs areas. Please contact Matt Deane by email at mdeane@ansi.org for more information. | Kellogg Conference Hotel - Washington, DC |

| Date/Time | Event | Location |
|---------------|--|---|
| Feb. 28, 2009 | 2009 MDCH-OPHP Volunteer Conference Michigan will offer its first conference dedicated to support public health and healthcare emergency response efforts for volunteers registered with the MI Volunteer Registry and other volunteer organizations. This Saturday conference is free to attendees, open to all disciplines, and supported by the Department of Health and Human Services's emergency preparedness cooperative agreements. For more information, including registration details, please visit the MI-TRAIN website , and search for course ID 1014902. | Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center East Lansing, MI |
| Mar. 25, 2009 | Basic PIO Workshop This is a two-day workshop for entry-level or less experienced disaster Public Information Officers and staff, emphasizing the skills needed to manage crisis information in emergency and disaster events. Topics include responsibilities of a Public Information Officer in disasters, effective media interviews, crisis information planning, and Joint Information Center (JIC) management. Visit the Michigan State Police website for further details and registration information. | Oakland County |
| Mar. 28, 2009 | ACMT 7th Annual Spring Course The American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT) is offering its 7th Annual Spring Course which will deliver cutting edge concepts relative to neurotoxic mechanisms, controversies, and etiologies for Parkinsonism, cognitive disorders, neuropathy and autism; case-based presentations on pesticide, mercury and lead toxicity; and the practical use and interpretation of neuropsychological testing, EMG, and nerve conduction studies. ACMT member registration fee is \$525. See the ACMT website for further details, including registration information. | San Juan, Puerto Rico |



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